



House Committee on Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development

Proponent Testimony on House Bill 2339

Presented by William Wilk, Senior Director of Government Affairs

Thursday, February 13, 2025

Mister Chair and members of the committee, my name is William Wilk, Senior Director of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber represents small, medium, and large-sized businesses across the state advocating for policies to improve the economic climate in Kansas. The Kansas Chamber appreciates the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on House Bill 2339, a bill relating to enhancing adult care home services.

House Bill 2339 is a comprehensive package that includes scholarships for part-time nursing students, managing educational standards for nurse instructors, and increasing childcare availability in Kansas.

House Bill 2339 is crucial to address the growing demand for skilled workers in long-term care homes. This bill would increase the availability of nurse faculty allowing nurses with a bachelor's degree to instruct nursing students in associates degree programs. The college is still allowed to decide who should be instructing their classes. House Bill 2339 will simply provide colleges with a greater depth of educators for nursing students.

House Bill 2339 would provide part-time students with the ability to receive scholarships. If part-time students can receive scholarships, it gives them more time to balance their job and education. These scholarships would encourage these students to remain in the workforce earning their degrees.

Finally, House Bill 2339 would establish the Intergenerational Child Care Fund grant for adult care homes to offer childcare services. Access to childcare continues to be a concern of the business community. This fund is a strategic partnership between adult care homes and the need for childcare services across the state of Kansas.

In closing, this legislation is a necessary step to increase the access of nurses in the workforce along with providing more access to childcare services for Kansans. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support to House Bill 2339, and I am happy to answer any questions you might have at the appropriate time.